

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 ACDA-12  
MCT-01 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /146 W  
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R 170219Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6279  
USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 05098

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UNHRC, FR  
SUBJECT: 34TH SESSION OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

REF: STATE 022442

1. SUMMARY: FRENCH HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH US POSITIONS FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) ON WHICH WE HAD BRIEFED THEM FEBRUARY 6. THEY URGE CLOSER CONSULTATION BETWEEN OUR DELEGATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS AS THEY WERE UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY OUR PASSIVE LINE CONCERNING UNGA RESOLUTION SUBORDINATING POLITICAL TO ECONOMIC RIGHTS. THEY HAVE LEARNED USSR PLAN TO REDEFINE HRC WORK PROGRAM IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS' PRIMACY AND HOPE FOR OUR SUPPORT IN OPPOSING THIS. END SUMMARY.

2. MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICER CARRIED OUT DEMARCHE PREPARATORY TO UN HRC PER REF FEBRUARY 6 WITH QUAI UN DIRECTOR LECOMPT. QUAI REACTIONS AS REPORTED BELOW ARE BASED ON SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS INCLUDING CONFIDENTIAL

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LECOMPT'S TALK WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) GEORGE A. DALLEY FEBRUARY 10.

3. LECOMPT ASSURED US THAT GOF IS IN SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT WITH US POSITIONS SET OUT IN REF (OF WHICH WE LEFT HIM INFORMAL TEXT OF OUR TALKING POINTS). HE SAID FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE ON HRC HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO

TAKE RELATIVELY TOUGH LINE, REFLECTING GOF CONCLUSION THAT "WE MUST STAND UP AND BE HEARD" AND ESPECIALLY THAT FRANCE WILL NOT ACCEPT UNILATERAL RE-DEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS FAVORED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND COMMUNISTS.

4. LECOMPT SAID GOF WOULD SUPPORT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF CAMBODIA, AND OF UGANDA UNDER ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1503 PROCEDURES. HE SAID GOF IS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT UGANDA WHERE FRENCH AMBASSADOR CONSIDERS ANARCHY IS SPREADING AS AMIN LOSES HIS AUTHORITIES AND "MANY AMINS ARE SPRINGING UP ALL OVER THE COUNTRY"; ALSO ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY IS DISAPPOINTING SINCE IT DOES NOT SEEM CAPABLE OF EVEN HOLDING MEETINGS TO DISCUSS CONTROVERSIES.

5. LECOMPT SAID FRENCH CONCERN REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IS INCREASING APPRECIABLY, AND HE CITED PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF PRESIDENT GISCARD AND EDITORIAL COLUMNS IN LE MONDE. HE BELIEVES THIS WILL STRENGTHEN GOF HAND IN PURSUING OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

6. LECOMPT SAID THAT IN CONTEXT OF EXCELLENT FRANCO-CONFIDENTIAL

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AMERICAN RELATIONS, HE MUST NOTE THAT GOF WAS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH US ON VARIOUS ITEMS IN UNGA HUMAN RIGHTS DISCUSSION. FIRST EXAMPLE HE DISCUSSED IS CHILE, AGAINST BACKGROUND OF FRENCH TRADITION FOR HARBORING POLITICAL REFUGEES, WHICH IT DOES NOT WISH TO JEOPARDIZE. OF OVER 100,000 TOTAL POLITICAL REFUGEES (INCLUDING HUNGARIAN AND VIETNAMESE) HE SAID THAT MORE THAN 5,000 ARE FROM CHILE. HE THUS EXPLAINED GOF DESIRE TO AVOID WHAT IT CONSIDERS THEATRICAL GESTURES. FOR INSTANCE, FRANCE IS WILLING TO CONDEMN CHILE BUT SIMPLY CANNOT ACCEPT CONCEPT THAT MAINTAINING AMBASSADOR IN A COUNTRY CONSTITUTES SUPPORT FOR THE REGIME.

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R 170219Z FEB 78  
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USMISSION GENEVA  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 05098

7. LECOMPT FEELS PARTICULARLY STRONGLY ABOUT PASSIVE POSITION US TOOK IN UNGA CONSIDERATION OF IRANIAN RESOLUTION L-17 (WHICH BECAME UNGA RESOLUTION 32130). FRENCH HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED -- AFTER ALL NEW US ADMINISTRATION HAD SAID ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS -- THAT US DID NOT OPPOSE THIS RESOLUTION WHICH SUBORDINATES WHAT WE CONSIDER HUMAN RIGHTS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' NEWLY-DEFINED ECONOMIC HUMAN RIGHTS. HE SAID THERE WAS SO LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING OUR MUTUAL OBJECTIVE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN RIGHTS THAT IT WAS NOT WORTHWHILE GOING ALONG WITH IRANIAN RESOLUTION WHICH SPECIFICALLY SAYS POLITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS VALID AFTER ATTAINMENT OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS "ONLY". LECOMPT'S CONCERN WITH UNGA RESOLUTION 32130 HAD BEEN CONFIRMED IN LATE JANUARY DURING VISIT TO PARIS OF SOVIET HRC REPRESENTATIVE ZORIN, AT LATTER'S INITIATIVE. ZORIN TOLD FRENCH THAT THIS NEW RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE THE BASIS FOR LONG-TERM PROGRAM OF HRC.  
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LECOMPT CONCLUDED THAT HE HAD EMPHASIZED GOF WOULD OPPOSE SUCH REDEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

8. LECOMPT STRONGLY URGED, PARTICULARLY IN CONVERSATION WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALLEY, THAT US DELEGATIONS TO UN MEETINGS CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

COORDINATE MORE CLOSELY WITH OUR ALLIES SO  
THAT THEY WILL NOT AGAIN BE UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED.  
MYERSON

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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014